

Message Text

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S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0107

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SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF APRIL 14, 1976.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WHAT WE SAID AT THE MARCH 31, 1976 MEETING, AND THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE U.S. DELEGATION, IN PARTICULAR, ON APRIL 7, 1976, THE USSR DELEGATION TODAY INTENDS TO SET FORTH SOME ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE LIMITATIONS BEING ESTABLISHED ON THE NUMBER OF ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE USSR DELEGATION PROCEEDS FROM THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PROPOSALS FOR ARTICLE V, PAR. 3, AND FOR THE PROTOCL OF MARCH 5, 1975, REJECTED EARLIER BY THE SOVIET SIDE, ARE TO BE DELETED FROM THE DOCUMENT DATED DECEMBER 18, 1975.

I

ARTICLE VI OF THE JOINT DRAFT BEING WORKED OUT SPECIFIES THE ACTUAL STATUS OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, IN WHICH THEY WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN THE NEW

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AGREEMENT.

ACCORDING TO ARTICLE VI, PAR. 1, THE LIMITATIONS BEING ESTABLISHED SHALL APPLY, IN PARTICULAR, TO ARMS IN THE FINAL STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION. THIS AGREED PROVISION HAS A DIRECT BEARING ON SLBM LAUNCHERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AS WELL. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AGREED WORDING OF SUBPARAGRAPH 2(A) OF THAT ARTICLE. THIS PROVISION IN A CLEAR-CUT MANNER RESOLVES THE QUESTION OF WHEN SLBM LAUNCHERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS, BECOME SUBJECT TO THE 1320 MAXIMUM AGGREGATE LIMIT BEING ESTABLISHED, NAMELY, AT THE TIME THAT SUBMARINES WITH LAUNCHERS OF SUCH MISSILES BEGIN SEA TRAILS.

I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT IT IS CLEAR FROM THE U.S. DELEGATION'S STATEMENT OF APRIL 7, 1976 THAT THE VIEWS OF THE SIDES COINCIDE ON THIS ASPECT OF THE LIMITATIONS BEING ESTABLISHED ON ALUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS.

II

DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW AGREEMENT BY THE SIDES LAND-BASED ICBM LAUNCHERS AND SLBM LAUNCHERS, ALREADY SUBJECT TO LIMITATION WITHIN THE 2400 AGGREGATE, BUT NOT SUBJECT TO LIMITATION WITHIN THE AGGREGATE NUMBER NOT TO EXCEED 1320, MAY BE CONVERTED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY WILL BECOME SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATION ON LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS, PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE V, PAR. 1.

THE USSR DELEGATION AGREES THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO REACH COMMON MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING WHEN SUCH CONVERTED STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, NAMELY, LAND-BASED ICBM LAUNCHERS AND SLBM LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS, WOULD BECOME SUBJECT TO LIMITATION WITHIN THE 1320 AGGREGATE NUMBER BEING ESTABLISHED, BEARING IN MIND THAT APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES IN THIS RESPECT WOULD BE WORKED OUT IN THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION.

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III

IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION BY THE SIDES OF THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT A SITUATION IS ALSO CONCEIVABLE WHERE THE ARMS SUBJECT TO LIMITATION ACCORDING TO ARTICLE V, PAR. 1, COULD CEASE TO BE SUBJECT THERETO. TO SUCH A SITUATION APPLY THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VI, PAR. 3, AGREED

UPON BETWEEN THE SIDES, WHICH STIPULATES THAT THE ARMS SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED FOR IN THE AGREEMENT SHALL CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECT TO THESE LIMITATIONS UNTIL THEY ARE DISMANTLED, ARE DESTROYED OR OTHERWISE CEASE TO BE SUBJECT TO THESE LIMITATIONS UNDER PROCEDURES AGREED UPON IN THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE A CORRESPONDING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING REGARDING A SITUATION INVOLVING THE CONVERSION OF A LAUNCHER WITH A MISSILE EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS INTO ONE FOR A MISSILE WITH A SINGLE REENTRY VEHICLE OR FOR A MISSILE WITH MRVS. AS FOR APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES, THESE COULD ALSO SUBSEQUENTLY BE WORKED OUT WITHIN THE SCC.

THUS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WHAT THE U.S. DELEGATION SAID IN ITS APRIL 7, 1976 STATEMENT IT CAN BE NOTED THAT WITH RESPECT TO THIS QUESTION, TOO, THE VIEWS OF THE SIDES ARE CLOSE TOGETHER.

IV

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WISHES EXPRESSED HERE, IN THE INTERESTS OF PROGRESS IN AGREEING UPON THE TEXT OF THE JOINT DRAFT, THE USSR DELEGATION ALSO PROPOSES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XVII, PAR. 2, BE SUPPLEMENTED BY AN INDICATION OF THE POSSIBILITY OF AGREEING IN THE SCC UPON PROCEDURES FOR THE REPLACEMENT AND CONVERSION OF THE STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS OF THE SIDES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LIMITATIONS BEING ESTABLISHED UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT.

V

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THE USSR DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE PROPOSALS AND CONSIDERATIONS WE HAVE SET FORTH TODAY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS IN WORKING OUT SPECIFIC FORMULATIONS FOR THAT PART OF THE DRAFT TEXT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, WHICH DEALS WITH LIMITATIONS ON LAUNCHERS WITH MISSILES EQUIPPED WITH MIRVS.JOHNSON

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NNN

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